JAN 13 1979

NAACP installation service scheduled on Monday night

The Terre Haute branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to conduct an installation service Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Second Missionary Baptist Church, 14th and Oak streets.

The newly elected officers and executive committee members are to serve for a two-year term. Officers to be installed are first vice president Floyd Baxter, secretary Alfreda Buckner, corresponding secretary Alice Hord and treasurer Cleta Harris.

Dr. Wesley J. Lyda, director of Afro American Studies and professor of education at Indiana State University, is president-elect. He has received degrees from ISU, Indiana University and DePauw University.

During his 42 years in education, Lyda has received such honors as being listed in Who's Who in America, Leaders in Education, International Dictionary of Biography, Outstanding Educators of America and Men of Achievement.

He also received the Indiana Black Expo Distinguished Service Award and Plaque in Education.

Prior to the installation ceremony, a fellowship period is to be observed with a "carry-in salad spread."

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Assoc

NAACP leader to present youth charter

Community Affairs File

Ts AUG 6 1978

The Terre Haute Youth Council Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will receive its original charter next Saturday evening, to be presented by James Lucien III, director of Region III NAACP Youth Councils.

Installation of officers also will be conducted at the meeting, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Second Missionary Baptist Church, 1400 Oak St.

Special events will include the presentation of awards to outstanding students in the Vigo County School Corporation, the report continues.

It is noted that Lucien, as regional youth director, has responsibility for youth councils and college chapters in seven states, including West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconisin in addition to Indiana. And he serves as a technical advisor on NAACP policies and programs.

Prior to joining the national staff of the organization in June, he was active in Region VI, serving as president of the award winning New Orleans NAACP Youth Council for two consecutive terms, 1974 and '75. During that time he was awarded the New Orleans "Champion of the Cause" title and was elected Louisiana

JAMES LUCIEN III

State NAACP Youth Conference president, 1975-76. Earlier, he was named "Mr. NAACP" at the national convention in Indianapolis on July 5, 1973, the report adds.

Having attended New Orleans public schools, Lucien was a student at the University of New Orleans before employment by the Department of the Navy in the Enlisted Personnel Management Information Center at New Orleans. He came to the NAACP following that employment.

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T OCT 6 197

NAACP VETERAN'S AFFAIRS — Several members of the NAACP veteran's affairs committee for the NAACP convention, Oct. 28-30, at Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, met recently at the Second Baptist Church to plan veteran's activities during the convention. From left: (seated) Mary Hornbeak, Mary K. Kay, Brenda Stewart, Geraldine Clay, Charleene Walden and Marie Elsom, chairperson of social activities for the women's auxiliary. Standing, William Hornbeak, Glenford Walden, David Cook Jr., committee chairman; and Albert Jordan.

House of Photography Photo

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Community Affairs File

State Conference —

Terre Haute NAACP Earns First At Bicentennial Membership Fair

Assoc/nv

Community Affairs File

OCT 29 1975

A first place award was presented to the Terre Haute branch of the NAACP at the recent "Bicentennial Membership Fair" sponsored by the Indiana State Conference of NAACP branches.

The fair was designed to show new and innovative ways to succeed in membership solicitation and how to stimulate interest in increasing the State membership.

The local branch won acclaim on all local TV stations in Evansville conducting interviews of National and State NAACP leaders and Terre Haute was prominent in the media.

+ + +

The display committee comprised of Rev. Noel E. Hord, Martha Brinton, Donna Forbes, Jim Stroud and Alfreda Buckner incorporated techniques for securing memberships into an historical display with pictorialization and biographical sketches reflecting significant persons and events and correlated it with the theme of the conference "You Gotta Belong."

In recognition of the nation Bicentennial year, black contributions to American life was depicted as something to be understood, rather than be commemorated and that Black History and American History are inseprable and should reflect this fact as a matter of course, not as a matter of sporadic celebration.

The central idea of the display is flexible enough that it may be used in schools as part of the Bicentennial Unit as a Black History Unit and could also be of value to community groups and merchants.

+ + +

The display was constructed around a railroad with 12 railroad crossings along the way illustrating historical events from the Landing at Jamestown to the March on Washington. Twelve major contributors who helped shape the historical events in our nation were represented by railroad station stops along the way. Twelve charcoal and chalk sketches of outstanding figures with likenesses to the events were prepared by Tim Tompkins and Tony Wade under the direction of Jim Stroud, Bruce Fiscus, Mike Walker and Martha Brinton.

Jay Forbes prepared identifying captions ranging from Harrie Tubman's "Black Moses of Her Ace" to Margaret Bush Wilson's "Top Leader of 440,000." Model trains with red, white and blue stars were used to tie together the Bicentennial events and contributors to a final railroad station filled with people of all races supporting the theme. The display will be kept to share with community groups throughout the Bicentennial year.

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Vigo County Public Library

NAACP officials meet in city

Assoc Wire T OCT 29 1977

By JACK HUGHES
Tribune Staff Writer

The 34th annual State Conference of NAACP Branches, in the second day of its three-day meeting in Terre Haute, continued a successful series of workshops for both adults and young people Saturday, looking toward the evening banquet and awards to be presented there and during Sunday's closing sessions.

The Loren Henry award will be presented at the banquet to an NAACP member cited for "outstanding community service in the State of Indiana."

Events Sunday will feature programs of the Women's Auxiliary organization, including the "Woman of the Year Award" and the "President's Umbrella March and Style Show."

Conference President Henry C. Mills chairs the central meetings of the event hosted by the Terre Haute Branch and Auxiliary President Hazel Minnefield presides at the functions conducted by that organization. The host is the Rev. Noel E. Hord, president of the Terre Haute Branch.

Friday's Education Workshop, chaired by Jean L. Conyers, heading the state organization's work in that area, reported Saturday that the session was "excellent — couldn't have been better." Participants included a panel consisting of Dr. James Conyers, Carl Riddle, Gary Daily, John Laska, Dr. Andre Hammonds and Dr. Everett Tarbox on the theme, "Racial Inequality of Education."

Concurrently throughout the workshop sessions, which include topics on labor, housing, political action, veterans' affairs and legal redress, is the State Youth Conference with discussions on "Youth Structure; African Affairs and Education."

The featured speaker at Saturday's Labor Luncheon was Robert Powell, first vice president of the Laborers' International Union of North America, a native of Kansas City, now living in Washington, D.C., who is active in numerous organizations and efforts linked to the aims of both labor and the NAACP.

He rose in the labor movement from membership in Laborers Local Union No. 1290, in Kansas City, in 1939.

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Community Affairs File

ASSOC. (WV) – NAACP

Local NAACP Hears Complaints Of Arrests

Negroes (TH) – 26-70

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.

By JOE BOLAND
Star Staff Writer

More than 200 persons gathered at the Second Baptist Church Sunday afternoon for a meeting called by the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to discuss "worsening" relations between police and members of the black community.

Don Turner, president of the local NAACP chapter, told the group he was heartened by the large turnout. "Your presence here indicates that you have decided to take the bull by the horns," he said. The crowd represented Negroes of all ages and economic groups and about 25 whites.

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The meeting was an outgrowth of a smaller meeting last Thursday night that determined the following points to interpret the mood of the community relative to a disturbance at Twelfth Street and College Avenue Jan. 16 in which ten black youths were arrested:

—That the police initiated part of the violence by making arrests indiscriminately.

—That an excessive amount of force, brutality and derogatory name-calling was unnecessary and only served to heighten rather than diminish an otherwise normal police call.

—That some policemen have been following a pattern of intimidation and harrassment by stopping suspected so-called "black militants" on sight and questioning them regarding alleged drug traffic.

—That the police have reportedly used short wave radio in locating and watching negroes in public assemblies because of their race.

+ + +

Two youths who were arrested in the fracas told those present at Sunday's meeting both of circumstances surrounding the arrests and their treatment while in jail. One young man said the main trouble erupted when one policeman began clubbing a youth who had been arrested. He said this caused several of those present to merge around the squad car causing the policemen to become further abusive.

The other youth told of attendants at the jail allowing only one phone call for all ten arrested and of police tripping one youth as he stood with his hands against the wall to be searched. He also said the group was crowded into a small room while waiting to be questioned individually.

He said most of the questioning was not about the disturbance but about personal habits, friends and girls. No one was present at the meeting from either the police department or the city administration.

+ + +

The Rev. Noel Hord, speaking for the NAACP chapter, said the present efforts of the chapter should "not be construed as an attempt to justify wrongdoing." He said, however, the chapter is of the opinion some of those arrested were guilty of nothing except being at the scene of the fracas.

The Rev. Mr. Hord said the group's aim is to liberate the innocent and see that the guilty receive justice. Those youths who were arrested denied that they were advised of their rights when taken into custody.

A committee comprised of various community groups and age levels was selected to confer with city and county officials about the incident and problems related to attitudes and relations between the police and the community.

Several persons rose during the two-hour meeting to familiarize themselves with the incident and express their opinions on action to be taken. Turner said the NAACP does not intend to render a blanket indictment of the police and citizens. He said there are certain elements on the police force and within the community that are the source of the worsening relations. He said the purpose of the committee is to attempt to "smooth out the rough spots" in police-community relations.

Blacks number about 5,000 in Terre Haute or seven per cent of the total population.

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'Vote...educate'

National officer speaks to local NAACP

Sp FEB 1 1975 Assoc (W V)

By B. J. Vondersmith

He rapped the brown wood of the lectern behind the altar table of Rev. Noel Hord's Second Baptist Church. His message was "vote, organize, educate." At 78 he is wizened only on the outside; his soul is very much alive and fighting for the cause.

Alfred Baker Lewis is white, anglo-saxon and protestant. He is not a WASP, but he is an uppity white man. For fifty years the national treasurer emeritus of the NAACP has lived and worked the belief that black people are first class citizens. In the face of black opposition to both white people's concern and to the seemingly slow, conservative and legalistic action of the NAACP, Lewis has stood his 5'7" scrawny ground.

And he stood that ground on the twentieth day of January, 1975 before a meeting of the newly reorganized and rechartered Terre Haute chapter of the NAACP. The announced topics of his lecture were Gerald Ford's policies, the need for national health insurance, and the gains black people have made.

Lewis excoriated Ford's "complete disregard of the interest of black people," especially in the area of unemployment. He added that while Ford's appointment of a black man as Secretary of Transportation may seem to be a step forward, the new Secretary was previously a high executive with Pan American Airlines, a corporation seeking millions of dollars of relief from the Federal government.

Lewis, Chairman of the Connecticut Health Security Action Committee, declared the need for national health insurance "because we do not now have good medical care. We are the richest country and spend more on medical research than other countries. So we should have the best medical care. We don't." He added that a good barometer of the state of our national health is infant mortality. The United States is 17th in the world for infant deaths, and the sixteen nations with lower rates all have some form of national health insurance.

An active member of the NAACP for more than fifty years, Lewis devoted the third part of his address to a subject about which he has great knowledge and experience--the gains made by black people in the last few years.

As a preface to this positive side of his observations, the veteran civil rights activist reminded the audience of the men and women who have been murdered within the last twenty years for their devotion to the cause, of the children who have been killed and injured, of the inescapable fact that none of the assassins were brought to justice.

Black people have made gains primarily through participation in the political process. Of the more than 3,000 elected black officials, 1800 hold office in the former confederate states. "More than 100 cities have black mayors, including Los Angeles, the third largest city in the country." Lewis suggested that "white people are beginning to vote on the basis of ability and character instead of blindly voting along racial lines." He continually emphasized the need for people to vote and to organize.

Part of the reason for Lewis's visit to Terre Haute was to lend assistance to the newly reorganized and rechartered local branch of the NAACP. After the address, Rev. Noel Hord pointed out to the assembled group that in 1968 the local branch had a peak membership of 700 people.

Hord, President of the local organization, urged the audience to encourage friends and relatives to join the local chapter. Minimum membership is $4., and with a $6. membership one receives **Crisis,** the national magazine of the NAACP. For those who can afford them, there are other memberships which allow more money to be devoted to the work of the organization at both the national and local levels.

Rev. Hord pointed out that "we have come a long way since the NAACP was organized in 1924, but we have a great distance to travel. Bigotry, racism and poverty remain part of the fabric of life in Terre Haute. The NAACP may not be the only or the best organization fighting these ills, but in Terre Haute it's the best organization to begin with. I encourage all residents, black and white, to become part of the work."

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NAACP Makes New Protest At Arrest Of Ten

STAR 2/9/70

Assoc (WV)

AFRO-AMERICAN (WV)

The Terre Haute chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people has issued a statement to the news media repeating a protest it made last week at the arrest of 10 black youths following a disturbance on the night of Jan. 16 at Twelfth and College Streets.

The statement issued under the name of Wayne Patrick, chairman of public relations, is timed in advance of the scheduled arraignment of the young men in City Court, which has been set for Tuesday.

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The statement protests the legal expense this will cause the young men and their families and declares the outcome of the case will be closely watched by the members of the black community.

Previously the NAACP announced it had sent delegations to the mayor, prosecuting attorney and chief of police. It was sought to have the charges dropped but the public officials refused to take any such action.

+ + +

Police reports on the incident were that a fight was reported outside a night club between two men, that a police squad car sent to the scene had calmed this disturbance but that a whisky bottle was thrown through the windshield of the police car as the officers later sat in the car keeping watch on the area.

Other police, deputy sheriffs and state police responded to a call for assistance and the two police were rescued from the crowd of 150, according to the police report, and 10 persons in the crowd were arrested on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, disorderly conduct and interfering with police officers.

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Community Affairs File

Terre Haute (N V)

ISU TEACHER TO HEAD NAACP

Martin Goodsoni, an instructor of physics at Indiana State University, was elected president of the Terre Haute Chapter of the National Association for the advancement of Colored People Tuesday night.

Goodsoni replaces Don Turner as leader of the organization.

Other officers elected included Leroy Shelton, continuing as vce president; Walter Gordon, continuing as second vice president. Wilma Graves, branch secretary; Michael Haldin, executive secretary, and Richard Ponds, treasurer.

Installation of the new officers will be in a few weeks.

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assc(wv) NAACP

MARCH DELEGATION WELCOMED HOME

T.H. Trib 9/5/63

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People welcomed home local participants in the Aug. 28 civil rights march on Washington during the organization's meeting Wednesday night.

Greeted by members of the local branch were: the Rev. Samuel P. Jones of Saulters Methodist Church; the Rev. George Powers of St. Leonard's Church; Mrs. Daisy Hood, secretary of the local NAACP; the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Goenig of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, and Evan Goodman, a senior at Indiana State College.

Mayor Ralph Tucker and Superior Court Judge Harold Bitzegaio spoke briefly at the group's session.

The Rev. Fr. Powers commented that he was most impressed on two points: All of the people present were really dedicated to a cause and religion dominated the scene. He further pointed out that the idea of violence was preposterous at such a place of devotion and dedication.

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Turner, Don

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.
TH Negroes 1/16/69

Turner Chosen President of Local NAACP

Don Turner officially began duties as the 1969-70 president of the Terre Haute NAACP during the monthly branch meeting Tuesday night at the Hyte Community Center. Other new officers are: Leroy Shelton, first vice president; Herman Roberts, second vice president; Linda Graves, recording secretary; Carole Shouse, executive secretary, and James Ross, treasurer.

Ernest Anderson, outgoing president, expressed appreciation for the cooperation and assistance extended by the membership during his term of office.

The chapter pledged a continuous financial assistance program for Louis B. Russell, world's 34th heart transplant patient and former Terre Haute resident. Turner made the following statement:

"I accept the presidency with honor, pride, dedication and hope in the vital days ahead that progress toward total equality can be achieved through peaceful means. The city of Terre Haute is far behind in the granting of equal opportunity for all its citizens in such vital areas as housing, education and employment.

"In 1969 we shall attempt to penetrate the void of apathy in the city on the part of the black community. It is disgraceful for our organization to sit back and let a handful of white persons do the things for us that we should be doing for ourselves.

"We must light a verbal fire under the black educators, the black clergy, and the few black businessmen and women of our community. These are the people that the hope and aspirations of the city's poor black people rest. We must somehow convince business and professional people that their two-dollar contribution per year is not enough! The NAACP needs their ability, skills and knowledge to make our organization strong.

"We need youth in our organization, but we also need wisdom and experience. Thus we need to harness the energies and talents of young black activists and at the same time maintain the wisdom and experience we have accumulated in the past.

"In my opinion our first priority is to build the branch's financial strength. In this time of social unrest, the interest has been focused on black power, but I suggest that we concentrate on green power for the time being. Every effort must be made to improve our financial strength so we can be independent and self-sufficient. Once this is done, we can become a more meaningful champion of racial justice in Terre Haute."

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Usead WV STAR 5-24-69

Local NAACP Backs New Civic Center

The executive board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has issued a statement to clarify the local NAACP position, in view of recent developments at Hyte Center.

Meeting at the Second Baptist Church Thursday, the board said:

"As responsible citizens in a period of turmoil within the community, we wish to make the following public statement about the direction and policy of NAACP.

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"Working toward interracial harmony and community improvement, we support the pending coalition board for the new civic center within the Hyte area.

"We deplore violence in general and especially the incidents with respect to the railroad car and the defacing of the Hyte Center building."

+ + +

The pending coalition board refers to four groups: Young Blacks for a Better Community, Community Advisers to the Community Action Program (CATCAP), Hyte Community Center Board and NAACP, all of whom hope to formulate plans for a new community center in the Hyte area.

A recent gift of a library railroad car for the purpose of establishing a library in the Hyte community was rejected by the group, and representatives of the four-named groups are now meeting to plan a larger center.

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Community Affairs File
Associations (W.V.) — NAACP

NAACP to play host to local politicians

County chairmen for the Democrat and Republican parties are scheduled to discuss election issues during a local NAACP meeting on Monday.

Terre Haute mayoral candidates P. Pete Chalos and Kirby D. Smith also are expected to attend and answer questions.

Wesley J. Lyda, newly elected president of the Terre Haute branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will conduct the meeting. It begins at 7 p.m. in the Calvary Baptist Church, 1100 S. 13½ St.

Lyda, professor emeritus of secondary education and director emeritus of Indiana State University's Center for Afro-American Studies, previously served as local president from January 1979 through August 1980. He resigned to accept a position as academic dean at Paine College, Augusta, Ga.

A native of Terre Haute, Lyda was graduated from Wiley High School and earned degrees at DePauw University, Indiana State University and Indiana University. In 1973 he was honored by DePauw which granted him its distinguished alumni award.

In addition to his active participation in the NAACP, Lyda is a member of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Terre Haute Housing Authority, Leadership Terre Haute and the Lighthouse Mission.

Serving with Lyda are Phillip Raspberry, first vice president; Henry Barnhill, second vice president; Annetta Sweatt, secretary; and Mary K. Kay, treasurer.

Lyda has named the following members to head committees: David Cook, armed services and veterans' affairs; Shelvy Keglar, communications; Hazel Lowenstein, education; Mary K. Kay, finance; Fred Draper, housing; Charles Dickson, labor and industry/economic development; Robert Hellmann, legal redress; Mary Hornbeak, membership; Phillip Raspberry, political action; Warren Swindell, press and publicity; Kenny Andrews, religious affairs; Minnie Lyda, youth work; Alfreda Buckner, life membership; Mary K. Kay, holiday seal, and Henry Barnhill, freedom fund.

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Community Affairs File

Membership discussed, officers elected by NAACP

Assoc (WV)

T FEB 5 1981

Members of the local NAACP branch recently discussed membership goals and elected officers in two separate sessions.

The life membership committee of the local NAACP adopted the 1981 theme of "Life Membership, the Cost Is Modest, the Value Is Priceless. What Is More Important Than Freedom?" at a meeting at the home of Dr. Hazel Loewenstein.

A minimum goal was set of add 25 life and subscribing memberships.

The 10 fully paid life members and four subscribing members of the Terre Haute branch were recognized. Eight new subscribing memberships were obtained.

Alfreda Buckner and Luella Casson serve as co-chairwomen of the local life membership committee.

At a general membership meeting, the Rev. Theodore N. Christopher, pastor of the Spruce Street A.M.E. Church, was installed as president of the Terre Haute Branch of the NAACP recently.

Other newly elected officers who were installed at the meeting include: the Rev. Cleytus Malone, first vice president; the Rev. E.D. Harper, second vice president; Lorine Ladd, secretary; Wilma Wilkins, assistant secretary; and Mary K. Kay, treasurer.

The executive committee chairmen are: Henry Barnhill, freedom fund committee; David Cook, armed services and veterans affairs committee; Luella Casson, education committee; Dr. Donald Yates, housing committee; Dr. Fred Draper, legal redress committee; Alfreda Buckner, life membership committee; Warren Clevenger, membership committee; Louis Ross, political action committee; and Dr. Warren Swindell, public relations committee.

Committees for Afro-American cultural, technological, scientific olympics (ACT-SO), labor and industry, and holiday seals are yet to be named.

All officers and executive committee chairmen were either elected or appointed for two-year terms.

The installation ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Joseph W. Wilkins, pastor of the Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church.

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T.H. NAACP

Many Attend NAACP Race Workshop

NAACP WORKSHOP LADIES—Don Turner, far right, president of the local NAACP, with others who participated in the workshop which was held all day Saturday at the Second Baptist Church. The program was entitled, "Does Terre Haute Have a Racial Problem?" From left: Ernest Leroy Shelton, 1st vice president of the local NAACP; Linda Graves, recording secretary at the workshop; Rev. Reedie Moore, St. Paul's Baptist Church, and President Turner. Martin Photo.

"Happy with the turnout" were the words that Don Turner, president of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, used to describe his reaction to the NAACP Workshop held Saturday at the Second Baptist Church at 14th and Oak Sts.

Scores of people streamed in and out of the church all day, staying to hear just what was of particular interest to them or to stay for the day.

The theme for the workshop was "Does Terre Haute Have a Racial Problem?", and this was answered by all speakers with a "yes."

Dr. James Conyers of the Department of Sociology at Indiana State University was the summation speaker, with his address entitled, "Crucial Issues in Civil Rights."

Conyers pointed out that in any city where the income for a Negro male is less than half of a white male, there is definitely a racial problem.

He also pointed out that 67 per cent of the Negro women who are employed in Terre Haute are employed in private homes as domestics.

Conyers also urged that the blame for the plight of the American Negro be placed where it belongs: on the white Americans. He said that it was the white man who first brought the Negroes to this country, not some "terrible blight in Africa that made all those people swim over here."

In his summation speech, Conyers hit upon all the topics which were discussed in groups and gave his views on each. He said that we "can have no civil rights until we first have human rights." Only after this happened, he said, could we have civil rights.

He also gave a history on the growth of racism, which he said was the real problem confronting the civil rights movement.

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TURNER NAMED HEAD OF NAACP COMMITTEE

T.H. Trib 8/26/68

Don Turner, Terre Haute NAACP President, was named chairman of a special legal defense study committee at the regular session of the Indiana State Board of Officers for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held Saturday in Indianapolis.

The appointment was made by State NAACP President, George A. Satterwhite of Anderson. Other members of the committee are Ida M. Jones, Marion; Paula Graves, Indianapolis; DeWitt C. Hunter, South Bend, and Henry C. Mills, Marion.

The special committee was formed following Turner's proposal which called for better state legal defense guidelines. Noting that local communities such as Terre Haute and Marion could not muster legal defense drives large enough to handle many cases, Turner suggested that each local branch contribute to a state fund. His proposal also included a retainer fee for lawyers who would serve and be on call to all local branches and its individual members (subject to verification by the local president and/or executive board).

Other items discussed at the Session included present branch problems from many Indiana cities, the NAACP National Convention and a report on the Fall 1969 State NAACP Conference.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File

Race Problems (T.H.) Assoc (W.V.)

NAACP protests alleged police action

Community Affairs File

T MAY 6 1983

By SUE LOUGHLIN
Tribune-Star Staff Writer

The local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People chapter is protesting alleged police brutality against two black Terre Hauteans.

But Vigo County Prosecutor Eric M. Abel said the April 23 arrest of Shelvy Keglar, 35, former clinical psychologist at Hamilton Center, was not racially motivated.

The chapter conducted a press conference at Hyte Center, 1101 S. 13th St., Thursday night. Keglar said prior to the news conference that he did not ask the NAACP to initiate it. "It's something they're doing themselves." He did attend the conference.

The NAACP is concerned about the "alleged police brutality and violation of civil rights by the Terre Haute Police Department and the management of the Sheraton Inn of Terre Haute," said Warren Swindell, NAACP publicity chairman.

The other individual is Carl E. Miller, 31, 41½ Gilbert St. Miller was arrested last month on charges of resisting arrest and three counts of battery, according to court records. He appeared in Circuit Court, and was released on a property bond, set at $25,000, no 10 percent. He did not attend the conference nor could he be reached for comment.

The NAACP alleged that Keglar was "harassed and abused by the security guard," and that Miller was "beaten and dragged from his home on April 11, 1983, clad only in his shorts and held in jail on spurious charges."

The NAACP said Keglar was refused service at the Sheraton April 23 after he failed to produce identification. Keglar was arrested on charges of resisting arrest and disorderly conduct, according to jail records.

He was released on his own recognizance by City Court Judge James Lewis.

The case is being transferred to County Court Division 5, Abel said.

Police Chief Gerald Loudermilk would not release police records of the Keglar incident, saying he feared the matter will result in a civil suit.

"As far as I'm concerned the policeman was an employee of the Sheraton," he said.

Loudermilk said he told Keglar to file a complaint with the police merit board commission. Keglar said he has done so.

Regarding the Miller incident, the police chief said police officers had to serve legal papers on him, and Miller refused to be served.

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NAACP names scholarship committee

Ts SEP 9 1979

The Terre Haute Branch of the NAACP has announced the appointment of a special coomittee to coordinate local efforts for the NAACP's scholarship motivation program during the coming year.

Organizational meetings throughout the 1979-80 year will be concerned with identifying and aiding the gifted and talented minority children and to assist local students who qualify in entering national competitions to identify especially gifted children in a variety of artistic and academic areas.

The local committee includes Reva Alexander, Joyce Bibbs, Jerri Dean Clay, Sylvia Laska, Annetta Sweat, Barbara Wilson, Grace Swanson, Penny Kyker, Merideth Lyda, Dr. Fred Draper, Dr. George Smith, the Rev. B.L. Ratcliffe, Dr. Hazel Loewenstein and Donna Atkins.

The first program concerning the Afro-American Cultural Technological Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) which is sponsored by the NAACP and the American Association of University Women through its education committee, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at the Vigo County Public Library. Program speaker will be Sandra Parks Black, immediate past president of the Indiana Association for the Gifted and currently serving on the Council for Exceptional Children Delegate Assembly.

Black will bring her experience and expertize in the areas of identifying gifted children and program planning for the gifted to the discussion.

The meeting is open to the public and especially to individuals interested in becoming involved with the ACT-SO program to recognize the potential of minority youth.

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assoc (WV)

NAACP Announces Award Winners

S MAR 13 1980

The NAACP Freedom Fund banquet on March 1 also served as the regular monthly meeting of the Terre Haute Branch of the NAACP, according to branch president Dr. Wesley J. Lyda. Accordingly, the meeting normally scheduled on the third Monday of each month will be cancelled for March.

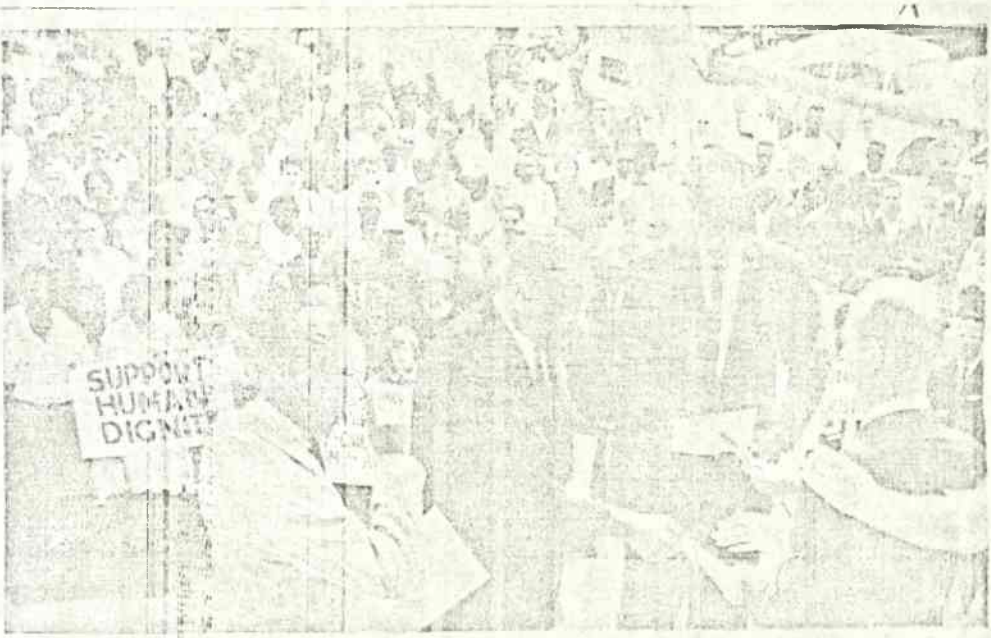
Dr. Lyda also announced the names of award winners cited at the annual banquet. Top winner was Mrs. Demetrius Ewing who was presented the Sojourner Truth Award. The president's award, established just this year, was given to the Rev. Morris Blade, minister to the congregation at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, in recognition of his notable contributions to the NAACP.

Certificates, "Service Recognition Awards", were presented by Lyda to this year's committee chairmen and resource persons. These included David Cook, Mr. and Mrs. James Walton, Dr. Hazel Loewenstein, Mrs. Cleta Harris, the Rev. Theodore Christopher, Ms. Mary K. Kay, Dr. Donald Yates, Wilburn Smith, Dr. Fredrick Draper, Warren Clevenger, Charles Brown, Louis K. Ross, the Rev. Cleytus Malone, Thomas Waldon, Mrs. Minnie Lyda, Mrs. Geraldine Bradford and Ernest Anderson.

Also honored were the current officers of the branch along with those members who served as the committee for the banquet.

The April meeting of the branch executive board will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5, at the home of Dr. Lyda.

T. 1-18-61 to 5-1-68



PRESENT PROCLAMATION—Robert Russell, second from left, a member of the board, Terre Haute chapter, NAACP, presents a proclamation to Vigo Circuit Court Judge H. Ralph Johnston, back to camera, urging all persons to join with the group in their struggle for equality. Mayor Ralph Tucker, extreme left, and Rev. Samuel Jones, right, pastor of the Saulters Methodist Church and president of the local NAACP chapter, look on. The presentation ceremony followed a memorial march down Wabash avenue Saturday morning in tribute to integration leader Medgar Evers, who was slain Wednesday at Jackson, Miss.

March Is Tribute To Slain Leader

AFRO-AMERICANS (WV) assoc

T.H. Trib. 6/15/63

By HOWARD STEVENS

A memorial march in tribute to integration leader Medgar Evers was conducted in Terre Haute Saturday by local members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The march, which got under way Saturday morning at the intersection of Eighth street and Wabash avenue, ended on the east steps of the Vigo County Courthouse building where the group presented a proclamation to Vigo Circuit Court Judge H. Ralph Johnston. The proclamation urged all persons to join with the group in their struggle for equality.

The resolution read: "We call upon you and all elected officials of the city and county government to lodge a protest with our representatives in Washington regarding Evers' death and the conditions generally prevailing in the area of all rights in our country.

"This demonstration is simultaneous with the funeral services of Medgar Evers in Jackson, Miss. We are calling upon the citizens of Terre Haute to join with us in our all-out struggle for equality," the proclamation concluded.

In remarks to the assembled throng, Johnson complimented the group on its peaceful demonstration.

"These are difficult times," he stated.

"I am deeply sorry for your tragedy. It is a pleasure to receive your proclamation," Johnston continued.

"As far as my court is concerned, there are no second class citizens. Justice like equality should be given freely.

"As an individual and as a judge, I pledge you my complete cooperation. No matter what the laws state, the important thing is what is in a man's heart."

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Community Affairs File

The Struggles of the NAACP

Black History of Terre Haute

Assoc (WV)

Better Times Mar 9, 1977

Second of Two Parts

by Cathy Scott

In 1885 the state legislature enacted a law that prohibited discrimination on account of race in inns, restaurants, barbershops, and other places of accomodation. This was generally ignored nationwide---and also in Vigo County.

However, the black members of this community did not retreat from progress, and they established their own schools, churches, civic centers, hospitals, and orphan home. They organized the local NAACP in 1919, which became one of the most active branches in Indiana.

Public Discrimination

Before the 1960's blacks could not eat in certain restaurants in the city. "We were not permitted in the Goodie Shop," says Ernie Anderson, 1967-68 president of the local NAACP. "However, in 1964 we met with the Chamber of Commerce and that night the city restaurants were packed with black customers celebrating the ultimate decision."

The members of the NAACP did not stop at this point.

In 1967, Anderson's chapter, which included 125 members, 600 paper memberships and 13 committees, confronted area factories and business establishments. By the end of the year Columbia Broadcasting Systems (CBS) had hired their first black employee. Commercial Solvents started to provide on-the-job training for their newly hired black employees. And many other small jobs such as grocery sacking were made available to the younger blacks through the efforts of the NAACP workers.

We've done a marvelous job since we started," commented Anderson. "Today prejudice is in the background. There is still some, but I don't think it is enough to hurt."

Anderson credits much of the community's progress with his parent's generation. "Before the 1920's many blacks were brought up in fear," he said. "Many were trained to stay in their place and were told tales of slavery."

And traces of slavery continued to haunt citizens of Lost Creek in the 1920's.

"I remember when members of the Ku Klux Kln usd to pass through the area at night, looking for stills because it was the prohibition." Anderson said. "They never caused any trouble -- they just wanted us to know they were there."

Interracial Taboo

It was during this time that Terre Haute witnessed its first lynching. "A young boy was accused of raping and murdering a white girl," he said. "He was immediately taken to the Wabash River Bridge and there was nothing we could do for him."

There was a time when a black male couldn't be seen with a white girl," Anderson recalls, "You would be charged with association if you were caught in a white woman's house and faced the possibility of a lynching if you dated interracially." However, in 1964 this type of dating became understood and one sees a bit of it now."

Despite the racial problems that dominated the city, the black citizens of Terre Haute fulfilled the needs of many of their people.

The Phillis Wheatley Association was developed in 1923 under the leadership of Grace Evans. The group conducted a boarding house at 1105 Poplar Street for young black working women. It was later converted into dormatory facilities for black female students attending Indiana State Teacher's College. When accomodations became available for thse students on campus, the director sold the building and corporation. Proceeds from the sale were used to buy a $500 life membership in the NAACP and to provide a Student Loan Fund at the college.

Black Institutions Established

In the 1930's the Vigo County Citizens' Civic Welfare Committee saw need for an orphan's home. Under the leadership of Daisy Hood, the group sought government aid and bought the old Judge Swange farm. Two buildings were erected where the Glenn Home is today.

In 1923 the first black hospital was opened. Named after its founder, it was entitled the Hoover Sanitarium. The Hyte Community Center was established in 1942. Named after Charles T. Hyte, a civic leader and former teacher in the Indiana school systems, it stills exists today.

The first black schools in the area were the Booker T. Washington School and The Abraham Lincoln School. In 1962, when the Abraham Lincoln School was integrated, it was renamed the Benjamin Franklin School. Other schools developed for blacks were the Dunbar School and the Douglass School. The oldest church in this area is

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the Allen Chapel. Founded in 1860, it is today a historic landmark. Other churches of every denomination were later developed, one of the dominant ones being the First Baptist Church.

Black History Observed

Since black history was not taught much in the early school systems, the black citizens of Terre Haute often observed birthdays of prominant black figures, according to Mrs. Jean Anderson, wife of Dr. Lewis Anderson, retired area dentist. "We used to observe the birthdays of Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, Phillis Wheately and others," she said, "It was at this time we would gather and discuss the history of these people."

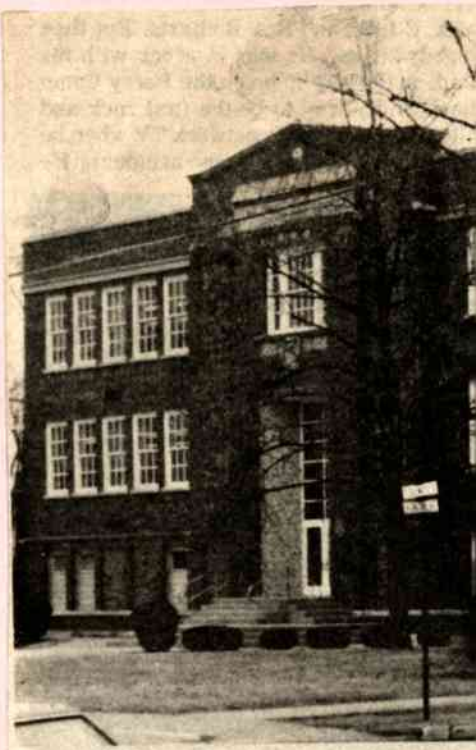
"Churches, civic organizations and lodges were very influential during these times," she added.

"My generation was the last generation to keep quiet," she said. "I think today there is more freedom of choice among us. And there is a great deal more opportunity for our children. Many of them are becoming teachers, engineers, preachers, doctors, dentists, lawyers, . . . where we were taught to just get along, they seem to be going beyond."

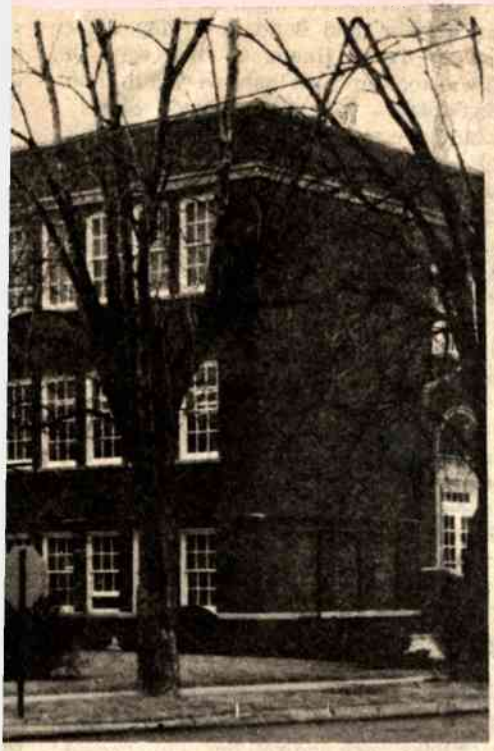
Terre Haute continues to see the prosperity of its black residents....

Special thanks to the following whose time made this series of articles possible:

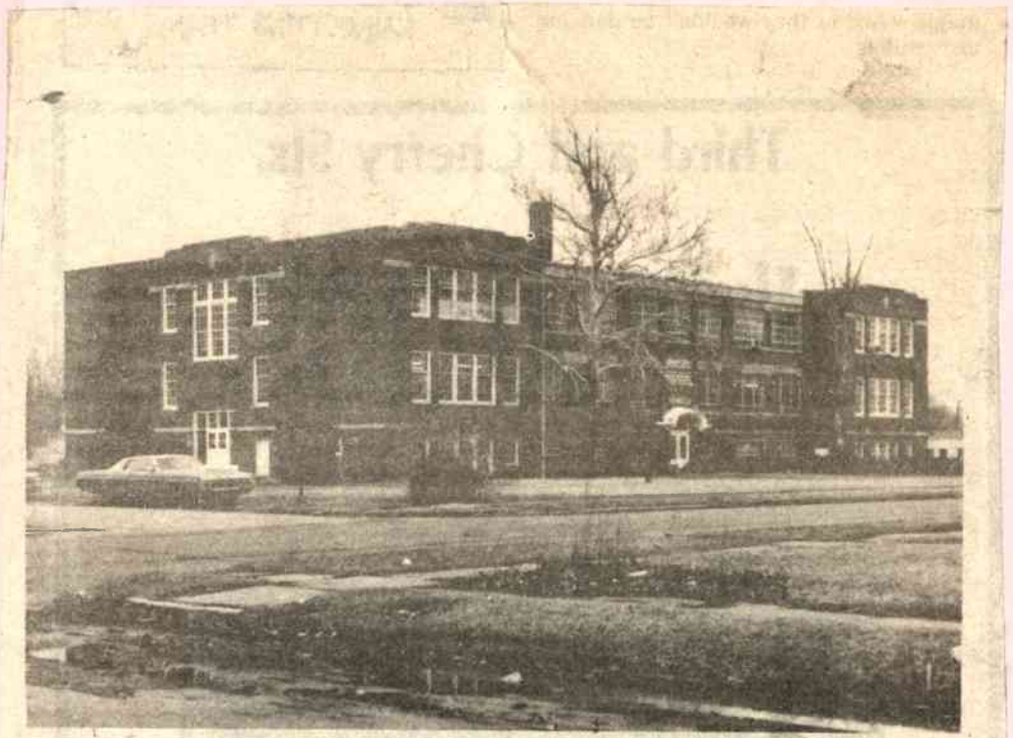
Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Edwards
Mrs. John Laska
Mrs. Selma Tribble



Benjamin Franklin School at 16th and Elm Streets. Before its integration in 1962 the



school was known as Abraham Lincoln School. It stands as a familiar landmark.



One of the first black schools in the Terre Haute area, the Booker T. Washington School, which stands at 13th and Cruft Streets, near Hyte Community Center.

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Community Affairs File

NAACP

NAACP's new leader wants blacks to become better than average

Ts FEB 26 1986

VAssociations(WU)

Community Affairs File

"Being average won't make it."

That's a simple but powerful message 26-year-old Rev. Larry Rascoe is carrying to members of the black community in Terre Haute.

The new president of Terre Haute's chapter of the NAACP tells blacks young and old ~~alike they~~ must strive to be above average and excellent in education, skills and abilities if they are to succeed in today's world.

Rascoe relates how he listened to William Augustus Jones speak Jan. 20, as the nation for the first time celebrated Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a national holiday. "What has happened to King's dream? Nothing has happened to the dream," Rascoe said Jones told his Indianapolis audience. "What has happened to us? Many of us have in a false way allowed ourselves to believe we have arrived. We have not arrived."

In fact, the Hopkinsville, Ky., native said, things are much worse for black Americans now than they were in the '60s. "Fewer blacks are going to law and medical school, and the numbers are continuing to decline."

What has particularly distressed him was a recent visit to the federal penitentiary south of Terre Haute. "If you want to know where our black people are, go out to the prison. Something is wrong with our government and our judicial system. It doesn't make sense when a group representing 12 percent of the total population can make up half the prison population," he said.

Wake-up call

By Susan J. Kaufman

A veteran newswoman, Kaufman writes here each Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday about life and those who live it in the Wabash Valley.

Rascoe has dreams too. "We have 7,000 blacks in Terre Haute and just one person on the school board, no one on the City Council. I've been talking to folks at the penitentiary about hiring more blacks. We've been blinded by the few individuals who are in high places. We still have more blue-collar workers, the high-school dropout rate is staggering and unemployment is double that of whites. The income gaps are growing wider and wider."

Rascoe believes that black Americans must pool numerical resources and become politically involved, and sees that activity beginning in the churches.

That's why the youthful father of a 2-year-old daughter, with another child on the way, has chosen the ministry.

Rascoe was just 4 years old when his family moved to Indianapolis. He finished high school at North Central in 1978 and attended Indiana State University from 1979 to 1982. He worked for The Tribune-Star in the circulation department for a time, and began to take the ministry seriously in 1980. "I was licensed in 1980, sold insurance for a while and was ordained in 1981," he said. He was called to First Free Will Baptist Church at 1226 S. 13th St. in 1983. When his wife, Trudy, completed her training as a registered nurse, Larry quit his insurance job and went into the ministry full-time.

"I find that we are stewards, co-partners with God and God has given us a tremendous responsibility. I must be responsible to use what God has given in a way that will give glory back to him. My time, talent, abilities must all be incorporated in that."

Larry and I talked Monday — his day off. Earlier that morning he had taken a young man out to Indiana Vocational Technical College to register for classes. He had several appointments yet lined up for the day.

He has a radio broadcast Sunday mornings at 7:30 a.m. on WBOW, has started church schools on Saturday and Monday and dreams of one day having a Baptist School: "I see other churches doing it. Why can't we? Compare a white church and a black church. The white churches have schools, hospitals, colleges, day-care centers. We have got to dream. Where there is no dream people perish.

"We need dreamers, they're the doers."

Local educator to speak

Tr FEB 25 1979

Crawford W.V.

'New Directions' eyed in NAACP address

Barbara A. Sizemore, a native of Terre Haute and distinguished educator, will be the guest speaker at the NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Holiday Inn.

She will be speaking on "New Directions for the NAACP." The dinner is co-sponsored by the NAACP and the Terre Haute Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. Tickets may be obtained from Floyd Baxter, Alfreda Buckner or Mary Kay, members of the Freedom Fund Dinner Committee.

Sizemore ...speaks Friday at Holiday Inn

The speaker has a master's degree in Elementary Education which she received from Northwestern University. She is presently working on a doctorate in educational administration at the University of Chicago.

She holds several honorary degrees including a Doctor of Laws Degree from Delaware State College, a Doctor of Letters Degree from Central State University and a Doctorate in Humane Letters from Baltimore College of the Bible at Baltimore.

She has taught at several Chicago public schools and was an instructor at Northeastern Illinois State University. Prior to her present appointment as associate professor of Black Community; Community, Education, Research and Development at the University of Pittsburgh, Sizemore was superindendent of schools at the District of Columbia Public School system and was Educational Consultant at Washington, D.C.

In addition to serving as an educational consultant for more than 75 schools and organizations, Sizemore has also published several writings in educational magazines.

Some of her better known writings include "Push Politics and the Education of America's Youth" in the "Phi Delta Kappan" magazine, "Desegregation and the Black Student," in "The Education Digest" and "Education for Liberation" in "School Review" magazine.

Honors received by Sizemore include the Maude G. Reynolds Classical Language Scholarship, Danforth Fellowship, Chicago Board Fellowship, Northwestern University Alumni Association Merit Award, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, and Who's Who Among Black Americans.

She is a member of the American Association of School Administrators African Heritage Studies Association, the board of directors of National Alliance of Black School Educators, National Council of Negro Women, Pittsburgh Urban League and Institute of the Black World board of advisors.

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T s FEB 26 1984

Community Affairs File

Local NAACP gives Freedom Fund awards

About 400 members of The Terre Haute branch of the NAACP gathered Saturday evening to present its yearly Freedom Fund Awards.

Dr. Wesley J. Lyda, branch president, money from the fund-raising event goes to local and national NAACP offices to help with the organization's 75-year march to freedom.

Certificates of recognition went to the chairpersons of the following committees: David Cook, armed services and veterans affairs; Dr. Shelvy Keglar, communications; Dr. Hazel Lowenstein, education; Mary K. Kay, finance; Henry Barnhill, Freedom Fund; Dr. Fred Draper, housing; Charles Dickson, labor and industry, and Economic Development (including Fair Share); Robert Hellmann, legal redress; Mary Hornbeak, membership; Phillip Raspberry, political action; Dr. Warren C. Swindell, press and publicity; Paulette Harris Spicer and Wesley Lyda (interim co-chairs), religious affairs; Minnie V. Lyda, youth work (ACTSO); Alfreda Buckner, life membership; Mary K. Kay, holiday seals; and Paulette Spicer and Lonnie Wade, musicians.

Also receiving certificates of recognition were local NAACP chapter officers: Phillip Raspberry, first vice president; Henry Barnhill, second vice president; Annetta Sweatt, secretary; Marietta Houston, assistant secretary; and Mary K. Kay treasurer.

The Branch Award went to Dr. Warren C. Swindell. Community Service Awards went to Dr. Fred Draper and Phillip Raspberry. The President's Award was given to Alfreda Buckner.

The Sojourner Truth Award was presented to Mary K. Kay by Yvonne Sutton, second vice president of the NB&PW Chapter.

Appreciative statements went to advisors Elder Jester Purnell, Thomas Walden, Walter Edwards and to Marietta Houston (assistant secretary and typist).

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Ms. Watson — begins term Monday

Community Affairs File

Joyce Watson named local NAACP head

Assoc. Dly
T S JAN 1 6 1983

Joyce J. Watson is the new president of the Terre Haute Branch of the NAACP. Elected at the December election meeting, Ms. Watson will officially begin her term at the first regular meeting of 1983.

The meeting has been scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17, at the Charles T. Hyte Community Center, 1100 College Ave. The agenda will be concerned with plans for the Freedom Fund banquet.

Ms. Watson is employee relations representative with Arco Metals (Anaconda), a post she has filled for the past 18 months. Prior to her arrival in Terre Haute, she was a resident of Flint, Mich., and active in community and political affairs.

She earned her B.A. degree in industrial psychology and an M.S. in labor and industrial relations — both from Michigan State University, East Lansing.

She is a member of the Indiana Association of Black Psychologists, the Wabash Valley Personnel Association, the Negro Business and Professional Women's Association and the Urban League.

As president of the local branch, Ms. Watson has set voter registration as the primary goal of her administration.

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State NAACP speaker urges reforms in criminal justice

Assoc. (W.V.)
Community Affairs File
T s JUN 1 7 1984

By Sue Loughlin
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Members of Indiana's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called for reforms in the state criminal justice system and new presidential leadership, during a quarterly meeting at Hyte Center Saturday.

State president Franklin E. Breckinridge presided at the general session. The meeting was hosted by the NAACP's Terre Haute branch, with nearly 100 members attending from throughout the state.

Breckinridge said he and other state NAACP leaders met with Gov. Robert Orr Thursday, at which time Orr said he planned to enact an executive order making the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. a state holiday effective Jan. 1, 1985.

The civil rights leader's birthday would be a federal holiday as of January 1986.

During its meeting with Orr, Breckinridge said, the state delegation asked for measures which would benefit minorities in the criminal justice system.

"There is a double standard. There's no question about it," Breckinridge said.

They asked the governor to use his influence and encourage local government bodies to implement "sensitivity training" sessions for local police forces, designed to train police in dealing with the arrest of minorites.

The contingent also asked Orr for support in repealing the fleeing felon statute, because the NAACP members believe a disproportionate number of victims are black. Instead, they believe officers should be authorized to use deadly force only under life-threatening situations.

Regarding the upcoming national election, Breckinridge said the NAACP would like to see the election of a candidate who will "stop retrogression of civil rights efforts," which has happened under the Reagan administration. The NAACP state president said Reagan has failed to enforce affirmative action, or has enforced it in a way which is meaningless.

Breckinridge and local NAACP chapter president Wesley Lyda praised Mayor Pete Chalos for attending the meeting.

The Terre Haute chapter has 550 members, which Lyda said is more than 10 percent of the black population in Terre Haute.

Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

State NAACP members meet here

State NAACP official Jonathan Comer speaks at quarterly meeting Saturday at Terre Haute's Hyte Center. Main topics were reforms of Indiana's criminal justice system, a state Martin Luther King Jr. observance and new presidential leadership.

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Community Affairs File

Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

Outstanding black students

Local high-school students were recognized Sunday for various achievements in scholarship, leadership, service and citizenship by the Terre Haute branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Standing with local NAACP president Wesley L. Lyda are oustanding students Gregory Allen, leadership; Saundra Lee, service and scholarship winner; Elaine Brown, leadership and scholarship winner; Marvin Utley, service; Jason Bynum, citizenship and Harold Allen, service. One of the winnners not pictured is Carmen Brown, citizenship.

Local NAACP honors 'future of city's black community'

Assoc(ted)
Community Affairs File
MAY 7 1984

Outstanding black high-school students were honored for their achievements Sunday afternoon by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Two students each received the first annual $500 scholarships from the NAACP, to be matched by Indiana State University. About 60 persons attended the awards presentation at 3:30 p.m. in the Afro-American Cultural Center, 551 N. 9th St.

"I know all of you are hard workers. You deserve to know you are the future of Terre Haute's black community," Minnie Lyda, NAACP, told about 28 graduating seniors.

"We're going to look to you to make Terre Haute a better place."

Scholarship winners were Saundra Lee, 2335 Chase St., North Vigo High School, and Elaine Brown, 1609 Crawford Ave., South Vigo High School.

Both Lee and Brown also were recognized for outstanding leadership and service.

Other students recognized for outstanding achievement were Gregory L. Allen, 1938 Spruce St., North Vigo, leadership; Harold Allen, 1627 Sycamore St., South, service; and Jason Bynum, Route 27, South Vigo, and Carmen Brown, Route 51, North Vigo, citizenship.

Twenty-eight graduating students received tokens of recognition from the NAACP.

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Community Affairs File

NAACP

Assoc.(W.U.) NAACP

Barnhill gets top award for work with local NAACP

T: FEB 17 1985

Several awards highlighted the annual Freedom Fund Dinner, co-sponsored by the Terre Haute Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and local chapter of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club at Gran-ma Joy's Restaurant on Friday.

Henry Barnhill, chairman of the dinner for the last five years, was named recipient of the Branch Award, an honor for his continued service to the local organization. He also received a certificate of recognition.

Winner of the President's Award was Charles Merriweather, who has been active in the NAACP for nearly 50 years. Merriweather was the first black captain of the Terre Haute Fire Department several years ago.

The Youth Service Award recipient was Minnie Lyda, who is sponsoring a youth group to the national NAACP convention in Dallas. She also was a certificate winner. Her husband, Wesley J. Lyda, is president of the local branch.

Community Service Award winner was Charles Dixon, who was chairman of the branch's industrial-relations committee and active in other civic areas. He also was given a certificate of recognition.

Other certificate winners were David Cook, Sanford Wright, Hazel Loewenstein, Mary K. Kay, Fred Draper, Rep. Robert Hellman, Alfreda Buckner, Mary Hornbeak, Philip Raspberry, Warren Swindell, Paulette Spicer, the Rev. L.L. Magee, the Rev. Anthony Walden, Elder Jester Purnell, Thomas Waldon and Walter Edwards.

About 250 people attended the event, which is the major fund-raising project for the local NAACP. The Terre Haute group includes 378 members.

Main speaker was the Rev. Julius Caesar Hope, director of religious affairs for the NAACP, a position he has occupied for seven years. He also has been pastor of the New Grace Missionary Baptist Church, Highland Park, Mich.

Hope's topic was "Don't Park," on your success and get complacent about the civil-rights movement, because no progress will be gained unless there is an effort to continue forward.

Community Affairs File

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Black community needs voice

Assoc (NW

Community Affairs File

T S OCT 1 4 1984

By Kathy Gerchiek
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

"It's important to the black community to have its own voice," said Sandford Wright, local NAACP newsletter editor.

The bi-monthly four-page publication began four months ago, with the bulk of its 1,250 copies sent to NAACP members. Remaining copies are mailed to civic leaders, organizations and churches, the media and business establishments.

The third issue published late November or early December will include such regular features as a column by the local NAACP president, an editor's column, NAACP committee reports, schedule of coming events and what Wright termed community news important to the black community. The third issue also is to include news from the local NAACP's branch at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute.

Some of the news and photographs in the newsletters were gleaned from The Tribune-Star, Wright acknowledged.

Purpose of the newsletter is to develop racial pride by informing the black community of individual and group accomplishments, distribute politcal news important to the black community, develop support for civic projects and inform the Terre Haute community of events related to the black community, according to Wright.

Some of the press releases the NAACP submits are not considered newsworthy by The Tribune-Star and the Indiana State University campus newspaper (The Statesman), Wright said.

He cited a promotional announcement for black history films, submitted as a story, rejected by both The Tribune-Star and The Statesmen. While he complimented The Tribune-Star on its front page coverage of the recent fire at the Nolan residence, home of a black family, a continual expose on the handling of the fire should be done, Wright said.

"What I'd like to have seen done is a further investigation of that," he said.

Wright is the staff. He assembles the copy and delivers it camera-ready to the printer. He also paid for the second issue out of his own pocket. The NAACP pays postage for mailing the newsletter.

A local business had provided free printing of the first issue, but took 90 days before completing the job, Wright said. It was decided to pay for the work now done elsewhere, where the newsletter is printed within five days, Wright said.

He is seeking staff members and contributors and financial donations to fund the newsletter.

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NAACP

Lyda

assoc. (W.V.) NAACP

Klan wages 'national terrorism':

JUL 16 1985

By Sue Loughlin
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Ku Klux Klan activities were branded as "national terrorism" during Monday's meeting of the local NAACP, whose members also learned of a church-sponsored Freedom Rally in opposition to the Klan's meeting July 27.

Wesley Lyda, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People local chapter, said it is a contradiction that the Klan is meeting to revitalize membership at the same time President Reagan is asking other nations to attack international terrorism.

"How can the president be successful in this endeavor while we permit national terrorism and intimidation to exist in continental United States," Lyda said at the Saulters Chapel United Methodist Church at 1312 S. 12th St.

Lyda's remarks were part of a prepared statement in reaction to the July 27 Klan rally. The statement was approved by NAACP members.

In opposition to the Klan's meeting, Thomas A. Trotter, pastor of the Mansfield Bible Church, said his church will conduct a Freedom Rally beginning at 5 p.m. July 27 and all day July 28 at the church.

"I'm here to apologize. I'm sorry this is going on in our community," said Trotter, also known as "Brother Noah."

He said his church believed it had to take a stand. "This is a national battle, and God's army is going to win," Trotter said. He said there have been rumors that damage might be done to the church as a result.

The freedom rally will include preaching and Gospel music. He said he has asked Klan members to attend church services Sunday.

Persons had various reactions to what local NAACP members should do. Though one person suggested NAACP members become involved with the protest — provided there was FBI monitoring — another person said members should carefully check the situation first.

"These Klan boys are playing hardball," he said. "Is anything being done to make sure blacks who go won't be volunteering for suicide?"

Sandford Wright will form a committee to meet with Vigo County law-enforcement authorities to find out their position on "Klan-like activities in Vigo County."

Henry Barnhill suggested that members focus more on long-term efforts to combat Klan-type organizations, rather than fight Klan members on their "own home territory."

Lyda, further developing the NAACP's position, said the Mansfield Klan rally "reflects and mouths some of the rhetoric emanating from the White House, particularly with respect to Affirmative Action programs, which can be interpreted to mean rolling back civil-rights accomplishments of blacks."

Lyda further asked, "Can we permit the name of the great state of Indiana to be besmirched by the KKK as it was in the 1920s ... "

The NAACP has asked the FBI to monitor the Klan's meeting. Also, Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the national NAACP, will contact national and state officials in Washington, D.C.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

NAACP, see also: Biography

VA Associations (GW) - NAACP

Scatman tribute next month

Actors & Actresses (Entr.)

Ts OCT 15 1985

A tribute to one of Terre Haute's favorite sons — Scatman Crothers — is among NAACP state convention activities Nov. 1-3 in Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge at 3033 Dixie Bee Road.

Benjamin Sherman Crothers, who was born here 75 years ago, will be honored during a Nov. 2 awards banquet at 7 p.m. The entertainer of 60 years has received numerous movie and television awards.

Recent surgery prohibits a personal appearance, but Crothers is to address the audience via a live telephone hookup from his California home.

"Scatman told me his training and education at the Booker T. Washington School and Wiley High School had helped him very much in his career," said Wesley J. Lyda, president of the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Nov. 2 will be proclaimed "Scatman Crothers Day," Mayor P. Pete Chalos said. "He has been an inspiration to many people on how to be a success in life. The convention will be an appropriate time to honor Scatman," he said.

About 300 persons will be in town for the convention, Lyda said. But he expects twice that number will attend the awards banquet.

The first day of the convention includes a luncheon, workshops and reception. A poolside prayer opens the second day for a prison reform workshop, awards banquet and President's Ball.

Banquet tickets costing $18.50 may be purchased through the Center for Afro-American Studies at Indiana State University at 237-2550 or through local NAACP members Warren Swindell at 877-2073, Mary Kay at 234-3040, Henry Barnhill at 235-9749 or Alfreda Buckner at 235-5655.

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NAACP

Associations (W)

Lyda quitting NAACP post

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Wesley J. Lyda has resigned as local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People president, effective Nov. 15.

Lyda cited a "matter of too much stress" in his decision to resign.

He is a commissioner for the Terre Haute Housing Authority and the Terre Haute Sanitary District.

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NAACP

Associations (W)

Alfreda Buckner honored for long service to NAACP

Alfreda Buckner, who has served the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for more than 30 years, was awarded the highest honor at the NAACP state conference held in Terre Haute Nov. 1-3.

BUCKNER

Buckner received the Loren Henry Award which is given to an individual who has shown outstanding community leadership and who best exemplifies the characteristics of Henry.

Henry was a state organizer of NAACP branches and was committed to other civic and social concerns during a time when it was considered dangerous to be identified with a civil rights group.

Buckner is a teacher at Woodrow Wilson High School and co-owner of Bell and Bracken Funeral Home. She also is second vice president of Indiana State Conference of NAACP branches.

During her work in the local NAACP life membership effort, she increased the memberships from 10 to 50, with 17 fully paid life members.

She joins the Rev. Noel E. Hord and Warren Clevenger as local Loren Henry award winners.

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